

THEIR INSPIRATIONS.

The literary methods of successful writers are not only interesting to the curious, but are oftentimes helpful to other writers, especially younger ones, who have opportunity to study them; for, grade as we may of independence and originality, we humans rely very much on each other and really do but



EDWARD BELLAMY.

little that is not suggested to us in one way or another by our fellows. To what extent Edward Bellamy's plan of national reorganization is indebted to the author of "Utopia" Mr. Bellamy himself probably could not say, but he did say to me the other day that when he began to write "Looking Backward" he had no intention of mapping out a practical reform, but rather intended to write a mere fanciful sketch for his own amusement and for the entertainment of his readers. He had begun a literary career—a career of literature for literature's sake—and expected to pursue it to the end. He had had about sixteen years of training in journalism, had written three small books and a number of stories for magazines, and in the summer of 1887 sat down to write another bit of fiction—a literary fantasy in which an ideal condition of things was to be described after the manner, though nowise in imitation, of Sir Thomas More's most famous work.

DEVOTED TO HIS BIG SCHEME. Almost everybody has at some time in his life stood upon a dizzy height and felt an impulse to jump off. They say—and "they," you know, always speak with authority—that if you had some great purpose in mind when you stood on that height, some purpose which kept you from thinking about yourself, you would not feel this suicidal impulse. If that be true, then Edward Bellamy might stand upon the tip of a horn of the moon and never be tempted to leap, for he seems never to be thinking of himself. He is so utterly devoted to his gigantic scheme of industrial reorganization that it is difficult to draw him into conversation on any other subject and well-nigh impossible to induce him to say anything about himself.



FRANCES H. BURNETT.

was always subject to moods. I am a slow writer, and sometimes have to rewrite a thing a dozen times before it suits me.

This last was confessed as if it were a grievous fault.

Mrs. Burnett's habits. Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett is a charming woman—so delightful in her conversation as in her books. Indeed, she talks very much as she writes—straightforward, confidently, frankly, refreshingly, and she writes very much as she talks, for she puts down the first words that come to her mind, puts them down rapidly and never changes them.

"I couldn't rewrite anything," she says. "When it is done it is done. I shouldn't know what to do if I were to attempt to rewrite it." And there is very seldom an erasure or interlineation in her manuscript.

When I entered her snug cottage at Swampscott, Mass., her son Vivian, "Little Lord Fauntleroy," who is now a tall, fine looking young man, sat at the piano as utterly lost in improvisation that he did not know anybody was listening to him. The fond mother, after a few moments put her finger to her lips and led me back to her study—her "den," she calls it—thus saving the young man from the embarrassment of finding himself caught in the act.

WORKING OUT HER STORIES. The history of her latest book, soon to be issued by the Scribners, gives a good idea of the manner in which her stories work themselves out. During her stay in England, after the story of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" had established her fame as an interpreter of child life, she was frequently importuned to write this or that recollection of interesting child doings as she related them to her friends. So she was not put strong enough to resume her literary labors. However, when the greatest trouble of her life, the loss of her splendid boy Lionel, came upon her and turned to her desk as the only available means of relief from her overwhelming sorrow. And, oh, what balm

there is in a good day's work! When enough of these stories had been written to make a volume, she entitled them "Children Who Have Made Stories," and sent them to a London publisher. He thought the title would not be understood, so at his suggestion she changed it to "Children Whom I Have Known." Some time later, when the Scribners had the same volume in hand in this country, Mrs. Burnett conceived the idea of adding another chapter, entitled "The One I Knew the Best of All," to be a recollection of an event or two in her own childhood. This idea pleased the publishers very much, and she began the additional chapter.

MISS WILKINS' IMAGINATION. Miss Mary E. Wilkins, whose short stories of rural life in New England have caused her name to be set up beside that of Guy de Maupassant, impresses a visitor as a character who might have stepped out of one of her own stories, and indeed she does put herself into her own stories, for, though she is set down as one of the most real of realists, she never consciously writes of real characters and has never but once attempted the description of a real scene. Her characters are all wrought in her imagination and are as real to her as if they literally stood for their portraits. Unlike the characters created by Mrs. De la Motte, Miss Wilkins' people never surprise her. When she has once grasped a character, she knows it through and through, and can tell instantly whether it would do this or that thing under certain conditions.

Miss Wilkins does not read stories much; she is so sensitive to external influences that she unconsciously imitates, or, to be more precise, unconsciously takes on the character of the author whom she reads. This phase of Miss Wilkins' mind would make an interesting study. One day she was answering a letter of a lady whose daughter was visiting Mrs. Wilkins. The daughter chanced to look over her hostess' shoulder and was amazed to see how much her penmanship looked like



MARY E. WILKINS.

that of the person to whom she was writing.

"Why," said she, "that is mamma's writing."

"Of course it is," said Miss Wilkins. "Didn't you know it was her letter?" "But I mean your writing is just like mamma's."

So it was, and not at all like Miss Wilkins' natural chirography, yet she was wholly unconscious of any attempt at imitation. Afterward, on watching herself, she found that she imitated not only the handwriting of her correspondents, but their literary style as well. Some years ago, when she was a young girl, she wrote a story in competition for a fifty dollar prize offered by the Boston Budget. Her story, "The Shadow Family," won the prize, but Miss Wilkins now wishes she had never written it, for she says she can trace in its style the direct influence of Dickens, whom she was reading very constantly at that time.



ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS' SUMMER HOME.

saw while trying to save the tempted in the Abbott mission.

She wrote of factory life in "A Silent Partner" because she was filled with a longing to help in every way the poor factory girls among whom she was striving personally. This tells better than it can be told in any other way how Mrs. Ward writes her successful books.

Her home at Gloucester is a very interesting one. The house is small, but comfort is suggested in all its appointments. Somewhat apart from the dwelling is the study, a separate building, and as cozy a place for the literary worker as can be imagined.

WILLIS B. HAWKINS.

Finman Haddies at Dettenthaler's.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

The True Laxative Principle

Of the plants used in manufacturing the pleasant remedy, Syrup of Figs, has a permanently beneficial effect on the human system, while the cheap vegetable extracts and mineral solutions usually sold as medicines, are permanently injurious. Being well-informed, you will use the true remedy only. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company.

Steamboat Arrangements.

Taking effect Monday, September 19, the Grand river boats will leave as follows: Steamer Barrett on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The Valley City on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

On Saturdays the Valley City will double its rate so as to run excursions on Sunday, if any. Freight may be delivered at either of the docks and will be forwarded regularly every day.

Both the Valley City and Barrett will leave their respective wharves at 9 o'clock a. m. The return trip ticket via Chicago & West Michigan railroad will be sold only on the steamer Valley City.

This is the new arrangement entered into between the two steamship companies of this city.

Finman Haddies at Dettenthaler's.

Shattuck and Trowbridge.

The elegant new merchant tailoring parlors of Shattuck & Trowbridge, Monroe street, up stairs, have been fitted with the finest of everything that constitutes a first-class stock, and are becoming the popular resort for correct dressers. The selections of stock are entirely from the latest domestic and foreign weaves, and are the most desirable in the market. The reputation of the firm needs no endorsement.

Hear Diekma on the political issues at Lincoln club rooms tonight.

During Fair Week.

Adams & Co., the Monroe street millinery firm, will display during fair week the finest line of trimmed and untrimmed hats ever shown in this city. They will also show a great variety of fine French and domestic millinery novelties.

Tuesday, Oct. 4th, special low rates to Petoskey will be made on account of the Autumn Excursion via the

WEST MICHIGAN RY.

This will be a great opportunity for those who have been unable to go north earlier in the season to take advantage of the

VERY LOW RATES

offered and visit the various points of interest in Northern Michigan. Tickets will be

GOOD TEN DAYS

and to return on regular trains from any station north of Baldwin until Oct. 13, inclusive.

The route will be

VIA THE NEW LINE

through Traverse City, Bellaire and Charlevoix.

COUNTY FAIRS

will be held at Traverse City Oct. 4 to 7 and at Petoskey Oct. 8 to 9, affording an opportunity for seeing a display of the products of Grand and Little Traverse Bay regions, which will compare favorably with those of much older portions of the state.

The special train will stop at any station north of Baldwin for passengers wishing to stop short of destination of ticket. Train will leave Grand Rapids at 12:15 p. m. and arrive at Petoskey about 9 p. m., stopping at Traverse City for supper. Fare for round trip \$4.00.

For further information address our agent or

Geo. DeHaven,

Gen. Pass' Agent,

Grand Rapids.

Let every one attend the meeting at Lincoln club rooms tonight.

Special Service to the Western Michigan Fair September 19 to 23.

The G. R. & I. R. R. and C. & W. M. Railway will run special trains from the Union depot to the Western Michigan fair grounds as follows:

Monday—First train leaves Union depot at 10 a. m.; make round trips every thirty minutes thereafter.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—First train leaves at 9 a. m.; make round trips every fifteen minutes thereafter.

Friday—First train leaves at 10 o'clock a. m.; make round trips every thirty minutes thereafter.

Trains will return from the fair grounds until 6:30 p. m., or later if necessary.

Rates, 15 cents round trip; 10 cents one way.

Sleeper to Indianapolis via C. & W. M. and C. C. & St. L. Railways, is still running from Grand Rapids every night except Saturday, at 11:35, and will continue to run until further notice.

George DeHaven, G. P. A.

Milwaukee Exposition.

For the Milwaukee exposition the D. G. H. & M. railway will sell excursion tickets at rate of single fare for round trip on the following dates. Tuesday September 20-27 and October 4. Good for return the following Monday.

Finman Haddies at Dettenthaler's.

Do not fail to hear Hon. G. J. Diekma at Lincoln club hall tonight.

We Can and Do

Guarantee Dr. Acker's Blood Elixir, for it has been fully demonstrated to the people of this country that it is superior to all other preparations for blood diseases. It is a positive cure for syphilis, poisoning, leprosy, eruptions and pimples. It purifies the whole system and thoroughly builds up the constitution.

Very Much Surprised.

I have been afflicted with neuritis for nearly two years, have tried physicians and all known remedies, but found no permanent relief until I tried a bottle of Dr. Williams' Great German Lintment and it gave me instant and permanent relief. 25 cents per bottle.

Signol, Hamilton, Mich., April 11, 1891.

For sale at D. L. Reber's drug store.

A little boy of Mrs. McInnes', living near here, fell against a red hot stove and was fearfully burned. The pain was terrible, and it was thought the little was never to see his dear mother again. I sent him a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which, after applying the same, the child was in ten days the boy was well, no trace of the burn remaining. J. H. McInnes, Reynolds, Michigan, August 11. For sale by J. J. Worsberg, drug store, No. 44 Monroe street.



A Nice Quiet Game is never Complete without a liberal supply of

Blackwell's Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco,

composed only of "pure leaf," grown in the famous Golden Belt, its uniform quality, and rich fragrant aroma recommend it to all who desire a really good smoke. No other smoking tobacco has ever been made which has secured and held the popular favor as has Blackwell's Bull Durham. It is now, as it has been at all times during the last 25 years, the best in the world. Made only by

BLACKWELL'S DURHAM TOBACCO CO., DURHAM, N. C.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? IT LOOKS LIKE A PANIC!

SOME OF THE SHOE DEALERS TOOK FRIGHT AND SOLD OUT, OTHERS ARE CLOSING OUT. WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF IT?

IT IS THIS:

The Columbia Shoe Store, which has just been opened at 125 Monroe street, has been and is offering to the people of Grand Rapids their fine stock of Boots and Shoes, embracing such well-known and celebrated makes as Edwin C. Burt's, Eddy & Webster's, John Kelly's, B. Jasmon's, J. Cramer's, Corshire & Van Alstyne, all new and stylish, for one-half of their actual value. And it has done its work. The people have taken advantage of such an offering and have daily crowded their store, all eager to secure some of those phenomenal bargains.

Those who have failed as yet to call upon them will do well to embrace the first opportunity and pay them a visit.

They have a pleasant surprise for you, for aside of those numerous bargains which they are offering, they will present you with a beautiful doll for your little girl.

Columbia Shoe Store

NO. 125 MONROE STREET.

THE WEST MICHIGAN FAIR

AT COMSTOCK PARK

GRAND RAPIDS, SEPT. 19 TO 23, 1892.

Will Excel Any Held by the Society.

Half Fare on all Railroads

The Famous Grounds, Fast Track, Fine Buildings, Ample Accommodations and Unusual Facilities, backed by Liberal Premiums, will bring Exhibits and Visitors and make a grand success.

The Bench Show will bring Hundreds of Fine Dogs Liberal Purses Will Draw Fast Horses. Every day will have many attractions.

Every Stock Grower and Manufacturer Should Exhibit and Everybody Should Attend the Fair. For Premium Lists, Folders, Entry Sheets, etc., address

C. L. WHITNEY, Secretary, Grand Rapids.

THE GOLDEN RULE

If Mamma Uses SANTA CLAUS For clothes on faces too—

It Can't be wrong To do To Dolly As Mamma Does to you!

USE SANTA CLAUS SOAP

MADE ONLY BY N. K. FAIRBANK & CO. CHICAGO, ILL.

Trusses and Shoulder Braces!

TRUSSES

We have just received a new stock of Hasting's Band Braces, Elastic and Aluminum Trusses, with or without gut and appliances. Before using such strong and good elastic bands, patients are cautioned.

Shoulder Braces

We offer an elegant Ladies' Corset Braces, all sizes, a new design. Also Elastic Backs, Elastic Feet Braces with elastic back straps and fastenings at our regular price.

VALLEY CITY PHARMACY, 75 Canal Street

Simple, Sure and Certain.

PECK'S HEADACHE POWDERS

WILL CURE A HEADACHE.

They will cure nearly every form of headache. They contain no opium or other narcotics, and do not in any way affect the nervous system.

The system does not become habituated to the use of them.

DIRECTIONS.—Throw the Powder on the tongue and swallow with a little water. Repeat in 10 minutes, if necessary.

They are an excellent remedy for Neuralgia. Use the same as for Headache.

They do not taste disagreeable.

These Powders do not disturb the stomach, and produce no unpleasant effects of any kind. They are intended for all kinds of headache.

For Headache caused by loss of sleep.

For Nervous Headache.

For Bilious Headache.

For Vertigo Headache.

For Headache caused by over indulgence in liquors and wines.

They usually give relief in 15 minutes. Every one who tries them, speaks in the highest terms of their efficiency.

50¢ per box; 3 boxes for \$1.50. Sold by druggists and at

PECK'S DRUG STORE,

Corner Monroe and Division Streets.

SULKIES!

Fitted with the Celebrated

G. AND J.

PNEUMATIC TIRES.

BICYCLES AT COST!

PERKINS & RICHMOND,

113 Fountain St.

FUEL COSTS MONEY!

COVER YOUR STEAM PIPES

WITH

MAGNESIA, ASBESTOS, MINERAL WOOL or HAIR FELT

SECTIONAL COVERING

And save the cost in one season. Get our prices.

Asbestos Goods of all Kinds.

Hair Felt, etc.

STUDLEY & BARCLAY,

4 Monroe Street.

Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Leonard's!

VISITORS TO THE FAIR

Are cordially invited to make our store their headquarters while in the city. You cannot spend a half hour more pleasantly than a stroll through our immense establishment.

The fourth floor has toys for the thousands. The third floor is the paradise for housekeepers, everything and anything they may want in the kitchen can be found here. So many new and useful things to make housekeeping a pleasure instead of a drudgery. The second floor is

THE ART ROOM.

Here is where we keep our choice goods. Ask to see the \$50 cup and saucer and the plates that are \$250 per dozen, and then the rich cut glass will be very interesting.

H. LEONARD'S SONS & CO.,

20-21 Monroe St.

DRUNKENNESS

is the Lightest Habit Rapidly Cured by administering Dr. Haddies' Suffering Remedy.

It can be cured in 3 or 4 days or less, or in 10 days, without any suffering or loss of business. It is a sure cure for all cases of drunkenness, whether the patient is a temperate drinker or a habitual drunkard. It has been given to thousands of cases, and it cures in a better time and with less suffering than any other remedy. It is a sure cure for all cases of drunkenness, whether the patient is a temperate drinker or a habitual drunkard. It has been given to thousands of cases, and it cures in a better time and with less suffering than any other remedy.

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We offer an elegant Ladies' Corset Braces, all sizes, a new design. Also Elastic Backs, Elastic Feet Braces with elastic back straps and fastenings at our regular price.

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

FRANK A. GARDNER, Manager.

TO-NIGHT: 1. Robert of Children's Home. The always welcome.

Wilbur Opera Co

In the musical "GRAND DUCHESS."

Monday Matinee and Night, "BLACK HUSSAR."

CHORUS OF FIFTY.

MATINEES—Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Reserved seats 25c, 50c, 75c, 1.00. Box Office, 1.50. Gallery, 25c.

SMITH'S OPERA HOUSE.

WILLIAM B. SMITH, Proprietor and Manager.

SUNDAY NIGHT, SEPT. 18, AND FAIR WEEK.

With Matinees Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

A Gorgeous Spectacle. ALEXANDER'S BLACK CROOK, and Big Vandeville Co.

A TALE OF ENCHANTMENT. Marvel Scenic Splendor! Unsurpassed Immolation Scene!

Grand Military (Kilbuck)! Marvellous Transformation Scenes! European & American novelty stars! Beautiful Amazon Marches! Lovely Land of New and Glittering Costumes! One Drama of Dazzling Splendor!

ONCE SEEN NEVER FORGOTTEN

The only show of its kind in the city

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"THE BEST IS NO BETTER AND THE POOREST NO CHEAPER."

Office Under National City Bank. Telephone 118.

WE DO SLEEP

YES, WE DO.

"But it is in the watching hour of night," etc., etc. How exhaustive it must be to "never sleep." One must naturally get "very tired." We must acknowledge the fact, but nevertheless we want you to trade your Coal trade, and—Linn, Cement, etc.

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2 PEARL STREET.

SEND IN YOUR ORDERS

FOR COAL.

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